

Standard Wire

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TOP OF THE LIST

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The Director of British Standards (BSI), David Lazenby, was recently invested with the honour of CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire), in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace in London. This senior award is bestowed on a few people who have given outstanding service to public or commercial life, both at national and international level. He received the award from HRH Charles, the Prince of Wales, and was accompanied by his family.

Read full article:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/en/commcentre/news/davidlazenby.html>



David Lazenby CBE, with his wife Ann, at Buckingham Palace having received the honor at the investiture

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Here are some of the documents we have to help you Get The Most out of Management Systems registration available to download at:
<http://www.bsiamericas.com/getthemost>

ISO 9000

- What is ISO 9001:2000?
- Glossary of ISO 9000 Terms
- 10 Top Tips for Transition to ISO 9001:2000
- 10 Tips for Selection and Use of a QMS Consultant
- Transition to ISO 9001:2000 the BSI way
- 10 Tips for Internal Auditing

QS-9000 and ISO/TS 16949

Comparison Matrix of QS-9000 and ISO/TS 16949

OHSAS 18001

Case Study of the Benefits of OHSAS 18001

ISO 14001

What is ISO 14001?

CONSULTANT CORNER

The Economics of Quality

by David Jenkins, a Vintara affiliate

Like Medusa's head, the Cost of Quality has many snakes; some benign and helpful but many dangerous, even deadly! Study after study has shown that the costs of poor quality can run from 10 to 25% of revenue if they are not accounted for and managed properly. A recent study by the University of Waterloo indicated that the problem is particularly acute in small-to-medium sized firms: nearly 33% of payroll costs were being spent on the non-value work resulting from poor quality.

Companies -- who normally have to go through rigorous justifications for capital expenditures in the tens of thousands -- happily spend hundreds of thousands on quality management programs without any clear idea of the return on investment they can expect to achieve. While studies of the financial performance of quality award winners in the US do indicate superior results relative to non-winners, it is leaving too much to chance not to understand -- and manage -- your own economics of quality.

You need to look at "all the snakes" and consider costs not normally considered as Costs of Quality...

Read full article:

http://www.borcom.bc.ca/executive_blueprints.htm

STANDARD NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental Management: Integrating Environmental Aspects into Product Design and Development

All products including services have some impact on the environment, which may occur at any or all stages of the product's life cycle -- raw material acquisition, manufacture, distribution, use and disposal. These impacts may differ in magnitude, temporal and geographical boundaries. Nowadays it is a common understanding that products are the major cause of today's environmental pollution as well as depletion of resources.

Read full article:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/en/commcentre/isobulletin/articles/2002/pdf/environmentman02-09.pdf>

QUALITY

Value-Added Auditing: Your Best Assessment Tool

Why have so few companies registered to ISO 9001:2000? In its July 2002 ISO 9000 survey, Quality Digest reported "the actual figure [of companies that have transitioned] is probably 8 to 10 percent." Companies now have barely more than a year to change to the new standard. One major reason for the slow response might be that ISO 9001:2000's perceived value isn't sufficiently compelling in these slow economic times.

One solution for easing the transition to ISO 9001:2000 is to conduct value-added audits. What is value-added auditing? According to the Institute of Internal Auditors' Web site (www.theiia.org), it's "a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes." Value-added auditing is so hot that the New York Stock Exchange and the Securities and Exchange Commission now require value-added audits of more than 17,000 listed companies.

Read full article:

http://www.qualitydigest.com/oct02/articles/04_article.shtml

INFORMATION SECURITY

6 Myths About Security Policies

Leave your preconceptions behind and write policies that work in the real world, an editorial in Information Security Magazine by Al Berg

As a technical director in my company's corporate infosec department, I assumed I knew all I had to know about writing information security policies. After spending a lot of time in the past year as part of a team assigned to update and enhance our organization's policies, I can say without qualification that most of my assumptions were wrong.

My company (I can't tell you the name, because that would be against our information security policy) delivers services to the financial sector. Our original infosec policy was written back in the days of the dinosaurs--1995. It was a simpler time. We connected to our business partners over leased lines and knew who was on the other end. Our systems were isolated, aside from a dial-up here and there. The Internet was a fad--why would we ever connect our mission-critical networks to it?

Fast-forward to 2001. Our business partners now used value-added networks and the Internet to send us important stuff. E-mail had become as important as the telephone, and we were doing business on the Web. Our world had become more complex. Our policies were seriously in need of an update.

In the course of working on the new policies, I learned the truth about my assumptions, which I now call the "Six Myths of Infosecurity Policies."

Read full article:

<http://www.infosecuritymag.com/2002/oct/securitypolicies.shtml>

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

OSHA Awards More Than \$11 Million In Grants For Safety And Health Training Programs

WASHINGTON, Sep 27, 2002 (U.S. Newswire via COMTEX) -- OSHA today awarded more than \$11 million in Susan Harwood Training Grants to 64 nonprofit organizations for safety and health training programs. Primary areas of emphasis for the grants are ergonomics, responding to workplace emergencies, and training for small businesses and non-English speaking workers. Many of the grants include development of training materials, which can be used by other organizations in their training programs.

"Education is the foundation for ensuring safety and health in the workplace," said U.S. Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao. "And these grants will help deliver that education -- through training and compliance assistance--which contributes to our mission of protecting America's workers from being injured on the job."

This year OSHA awarded two categories of grants: Targeted Topic Grants support training in the recognition and prevention of ergonomic hazards in industries with high rates of ergonomic injuries; homeland security programs that train workers and employers on preparing to respond to emergency situations in the workplace; Institutional Competency Building Grants help nonprofit organizations to expand safety and health training, education and outreach to assist workers on an ongoing basis.

"Outreach and education are important tools for us to use in reducing injuries and illnesses," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "The grants will help these organizations train employees in targeted occupational safety and health topics, and develop materials and curricula that will be made available to others so that a larger audience can benefit in the future."

Of the 64 grants made, 20 of them are to new grantees that were selected through a national competition announced in May. The remaining 44 awards are one-year extensions of existing grants.

The training grants are named in honor of the late Susan Harwood, a former director of the Office of Risk Assessment in OSHA's health standards directorate, who died in 1996. During her 17-year tenure with the agency, Harwood helped develop OSHA standards to protect workers exposed to bloodborne pathogens, cotton dust, benzene, formaldehyde, asbestos and lead in construction.

Read more:

<http://www.safetyonline.com/content/news/article.asp?docid={6DB7412E-CFFC-11D6-A78B-00D0B7694F32}>

DID YOU KNOW?

A National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace

President Bush directed the development of a National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace to ensure that America has a clear roadmap to protect a part of its infrastructure so essential to our way of life. The draft of that road map was developed in close collaboration with key sectors of the economy that rely on cyberspace, State, and local governments, colleges and universities, and concerned organizations.

Sector groups developed their own strategies to protect the parts of cyberspace on which they rely. They are made available online today. Additional recently-formed sector groups have initiated the process of developing their own strategies. Town hall meetings were held around the country, and fifty-three clusters of key questions were published to spark public debate. Even more input is needed. This unique partnership and process is necessary because the majority of the country's cyber resources are controlled by entities outside of government. For the Strategy to work, it must be a plan to which a broad cross-section of the country is committed.

Learn more: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/pcipb/>

HOW TO...

ISO 9000 for a Small Planet

ISO 9000, the international standard for quality management, is truly becoming a worldwide standard. By December 2001, there were more than 510,616 businesses certified in 161 countries. While 10 industrialized nations accounted for nearly 62% of that total, ISO 9000 registrations are now being reported from many smaller countries as well, including Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar and Zambia.

This worldwide acceptance is fueling a growing demand for services linked with ISO 9000 registration, defined as documented evidence that a company's quality management system (QMS) conforms to the standard. While efforts are underway to ensure that the ISO registration process is applied consistently across the globe, regional differences still exist.

Certification/registration takes place when an independent and competent body certifies that a product, process, service or system conforms to specific requirements. In the ISO 9000 context, registration and certification are used interchangeably, and bodies that issue conformity certificates are, in the United States, referred to as registrars and elsewhere as certification or registration bodies. Since the registrar is independent of both the organization seeking certification (the first party) and its customers (second parties), the registration process is known as third-party assessment, and its value is based on the proven competence of the registrar.

Read full article:

<http://www.qualitymag.com/execute.asp?SideBar=Active&Cat=4&Section=Articles&Sub=Detail&riD=1B5F9A61AEDB4779802BE760E6361B6F>



Vintara is the leading provider of Web-based process management solutions and services. Founded in 1997, Vintara has a proven track record of helping the enterprise successfully prepare for and cost-effectively maintain compliance with a range of domestic and internationally recognized standards. Our customers come from a variety of industries, with a diverse range of needs. In every case, Vintara has created solutions that meet and exceed their growing business needs.

Combining innovative technology with training and consulting services, our brands – ISO9, ISO14, ISO17 and OHS18 – deliver the solutions that help the enterprise manage their key business processes setting the path to continual improvement.

For more information on Vintara, click on the URL: www.vintara.com

FEEDBACK

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